

For an overview of the entire Cicero Wetlands, walk on Cicero Avenue across the bridge north of 72nd Street and the Bedford City Square shopping center. The view to the east provides an impressive panorama of dozens of parallel lines of train tracks and the triangular shaped wetland on the right. In the distance is the downtown skyline.

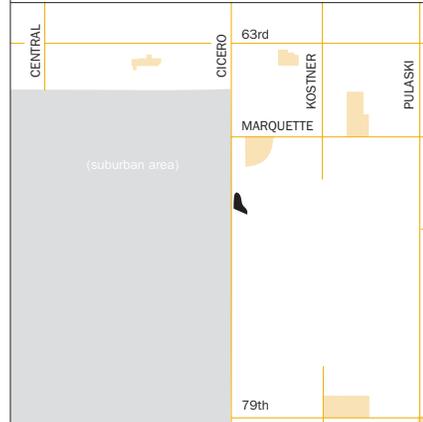
Down on the ground are large stands of common reed (*Phragmites*) and teasel, two invasive plants. The ecological quality of the native plant community within the wetland is low quality, but a survey of amphibians and reptiles would be worthwhile. Since the site is difficult to reach by foot or any other manner, wildlife suffers little disturbance from humans.

The site is part of the Greater Southwest Chicago Industrial Corridor. On the land south of the site is a remote parking lot for Midway Airport. The wetland and its restoration could be part of a stormwater management design if this land is developed.

Belt Railroad owns the property, though there are a number of encumbering easements on it, including one from Com Ed for maintenance of utility lines. As of this writing, no plans are in place for either the property's development or its sale.

CICERO WETLANDS

Site No 03

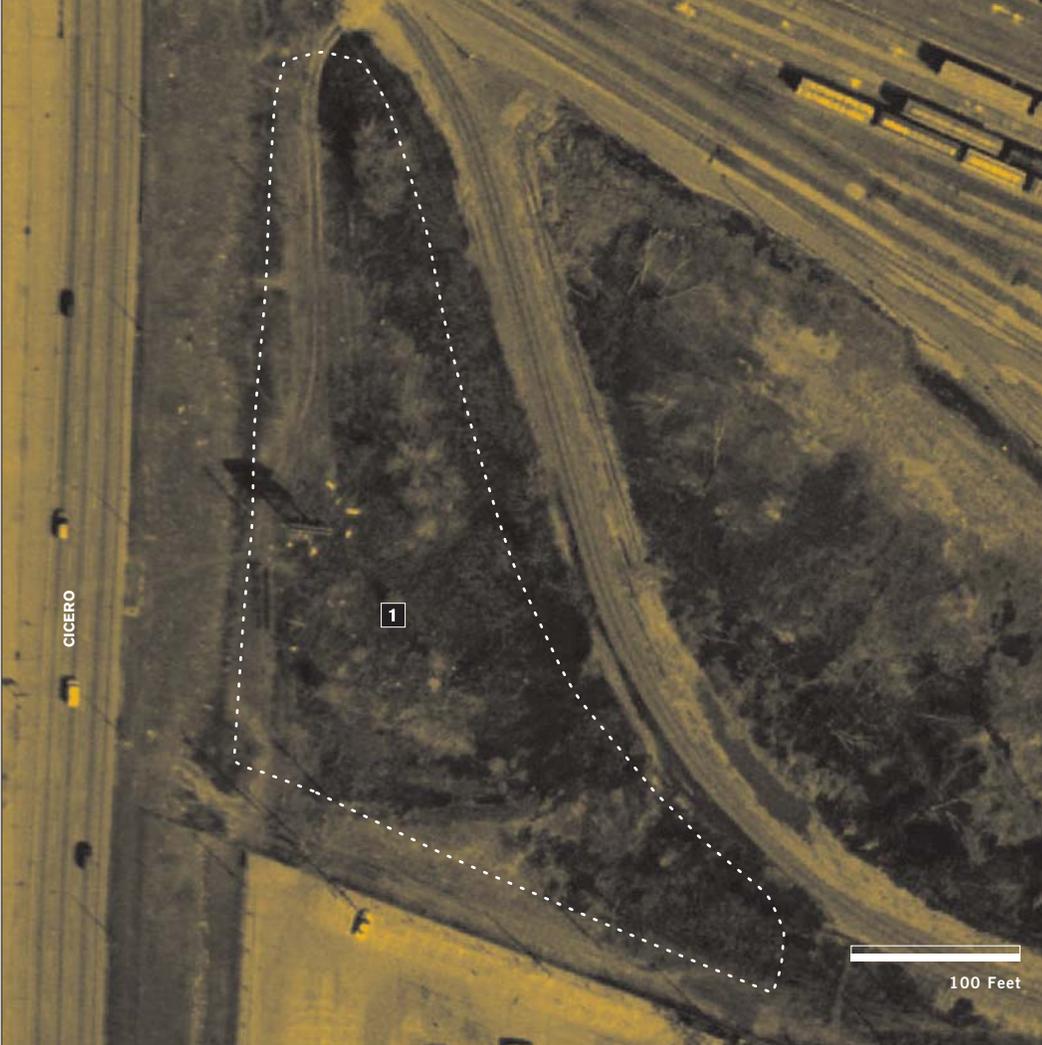


7100 SOUTH / 4700 WEST



Cicero Wetlands

N: 03



ADDRESS 7100 S Cicero Ave
 OWNER Private
 ACREAGE 1.66

HABITATS
1 Wetland

DIRECTIONS Park in the Bedford City Square shopping center lot on the west side of Cicero at 71st Street; cross the street and walk slightly north for the view.

Cicero Wetlands

Chicago Habitat Directory 2005